



Henry County, Virginia

E-Newsletter from the official website of Henry County, VA

Henry County Monthly Newsletter

December 2008

Public information meeting set for transit system input

PART

PIEDMONT AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT

A Public Informational Meeting concerning a pilot public transportation system for Martinsville and Henry County will be held December 8 at the County Administration Building.

The meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the first floor meeting room.

The Commonwealth Transportation Board recently approved \$114,000 to go toward the funding for the pilot program in the Martinsville-Henry County area. The pilot project will provide a one-year look at a public transit system for the Martinsville-Henry County area. If the project is successful in its first year, the localities can apply for federal and state funding in subsequent years.

The system, named Piedmont Area Regional Transit (PART), will be managed by RADAR of Roanoke, a non-profit organization that has organized and maintained both public and private human service transportation for more than 25 years.

The proposed service will operate Monday through Friday between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. A fare of \$1.00 per trip will be charged with exact change required. This fare must be paid before boarding the bus. Children under the age of six (6) years old ride at no charge.

Routes will be served by a 14-passenger handicapped accessible bus and will consist of two loops with a connecting point at Wal-Mart. Designated stops will be located at high traffic retail areas, industrial parks, college campuses, medical facilities, and government offices. A tentative route has been designed and will be the basis of public comment at the December 8 meeting.

Among the locations tentatively targeted for stops are the Virginia Employment Commission, Social Services, Social Security Office, Health Department, and City and County Government buildings, as well as major retail locations.

Individuals who are ADA certified may request the bus to deviate off the route to make pick-ups and drops-offs. The distance of deviation may not exceed $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile and the requested pick-up or drop-off time must meet the bus' regular schedule.

The Public Information meeting is designed for citizens to consider the proposed route and operational issues and provide feedback.

For more information, please contact Leon Towarnicki, the City of Martinsville's Director of Public Works at (276) 403-5154; Lee Clark, Henry County's Director of Planning, Zoning & Inspection at (276) 634-4620; or Curtis Andrews, RADAR at (800) 964-5707 Ext. 102.

Jack Dalton Award to be presented December 16

The 2008 Jack Dalton Community Service Award is scheduled to be presented December 16 at 6

p.m. The presentation will be part of the Board of Supervisors' December meeting.

The award annually goes to the Henry County resident who best demonstrates the exemplary community service that marked Dalton's years of public service. Dalton served as a member of the Henry County Board of Supervisors for more than 24 years, and was serving as the Board Chairman at the time of his death on May 24, 2000.

Nominations were solicited from community residents through local media and the Henry County website, www.henrycountyva.gov. Nominations are based on the candidate's personal volunteer efforts and active involvement in helping promote the quality of life in Henry County.

Previous recipients of the honor include Dr. Calvin Rains, Bill Adkins, Clay Campbell, Mary McGee, Charles Bradshaw, and the Rev. Thurman Echols.

Holiday schedule set

Henry County's offices will be closed Wednesday, December 24; Thursday, December 25; and Thursday, January 1 for the holidays. All offices will reopen at their regular time January 2.

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